

The present condition of Mexico, and its political history for half a century are fruitful of instruction to every American citizen. Mexico has known only brief intervals of peace since she became independent of Spain. Her soil has been the theatre of off-recurring wars and revolution—now the battle-field of foreign war, and now the scene of domestic strife. The foundation of a once strong government having been severed, the social and political life of her people has exhibited no definite or lasting status since. Territorial cession and secession have alternately marked her struggles for empire and freedom. So frequent and radical has

such he made the reputation which placed him where inevitable failure awaited him. General Hood transfers to General Taylor the remnants of a once splendid army, to which General Johnston had given spirit and organization. Johnston alone knew the capacity of that army and had he continued its leader he might have saved its shattered ranks. General Taylor has an exceedingly difficult task intrusted to him. He stands at the head of the broken column of an army which has felt all the loss and chagrin of repeated disaster. We are sure that General Thomas will prove as much superior to Taylor as he is to Hood.

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